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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY REPORT NO. [redacted]

INFORMATION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

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1. The Tesla plant at Prague-Hloubetin, formerly known as the "Philips" firm, is a modern enterprise run only by electrical power. It has a modern alarm apparatus and is guarded at night by armed members of the plant militia. According to an unconfirmed report this militia uses dogs. Surrounding the plant is a plank fence of modern construction. A large area around the factory also belongs to the plant and is marked on every plan of the City of Prague as a whole block. The attached plan shows the location of this plant by streets and indicates the following buildings:

   a. Block "A" — Storerooms for combustibles, chemical substances, and chemical materials in general.

   b. Block "B" — Two-story block. On the first floor there are storerooms for steel supplies (iron sheets, wires, chassis for radio sets, etc.). On the second floor are a kitchen, a dining room for employees, and a concert room. In the left wing of Block "B" is the dining room for clerks and chiefs of the departments. Entrances are marked by arrows; those with red arrows identify entrances on the first floor to the storeroom.

   c. Block "C" — Two-story block. On the first floor there are mechanical assembling rooms and mechanical workshops with heavy machines (lathes, grinding machines, milling machines, etc.). On the second floor is the department for mechanical spare parts in combination with the assembling of electrical fittings. The production of measuring appliances is situated in the right wing of the block, and the departments of special apparatus and design are situated in the left wing. All these buildings have flat roofs. Blocks "B" and "C" were finished only in 1946.

   d. Blocks "D", "E" and "F" — Block "D" is a two-story building housing the management of the plant. Its entrance is indicated by an arrow. It is possible to go through this building in order to reach the tube and bulb production departments (in Block "F", which also is a two-story building). In the left wing of

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VOID

Block "D", on the first floor, are the office of the manager and the office of the Work's Council. On the second floor are the administrative offices, purchase department, personnel department, etc. The sales and display departments are located at Praha II, Karlovo Namesti, where Tesla has its own display building, storehouse of finished products, and display windows, and where the central management is also situated. In the right wing of Block "D", on the first floor only, are offices for the technical management of bulb and tube production. In part "E" is the shop for production machinery. The chief of tube production is Ing. Vana, and the chief of the technical department of bulb production is Ing. Schlesinger. Production is almost entirely automatic, from grid winding to assembling the whole tube and including vacuum and electronic heating in the bulb. Building "F" has one floor, and the rectangles on the plan represent skylights. In this building are the assembly line production of all kinds of radio equipment and spare parts, small storerooms, and the control room of materials and produced spare parts.

e. At the back of Block "B" is found the entrance to the original chemical laboratories, in which a very able man, Ing. Hellbich, works. Additional chemical and research laboratories were established in the summer of 1949, under the management of a German, Dr. Espe, on the premises of the former Ing. Prasek firm. These research laboratories with modern equipment are on the second floor, and, according to the latest reports, the research on cathode emission layers is carried out there. Great difficulties arose in obtaining the necessary material for these cathodes, in spite of the fact that there is a perceptible shortage of special measuring apparatus (spectrographs and spectrometers in general). There are also difficulties in the phase of tube production that involves the replacing of lead wires into tube envelopes, since there is a lack of a special alloy which expands at the same rate as the glass. These discrepancies result in microscopic leaks between lead-wires and glass; thus, the air penetrating into the tubes shortens their life considerably (to 2 to 4 months). This defect is especially present in the production series of tubes: ECH-21, EF-22, and EBL-21.

Encls: Sketch of Tesla factory and environs.